



NREL National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Innovation for Our Energy Future

A national laboratory of the U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

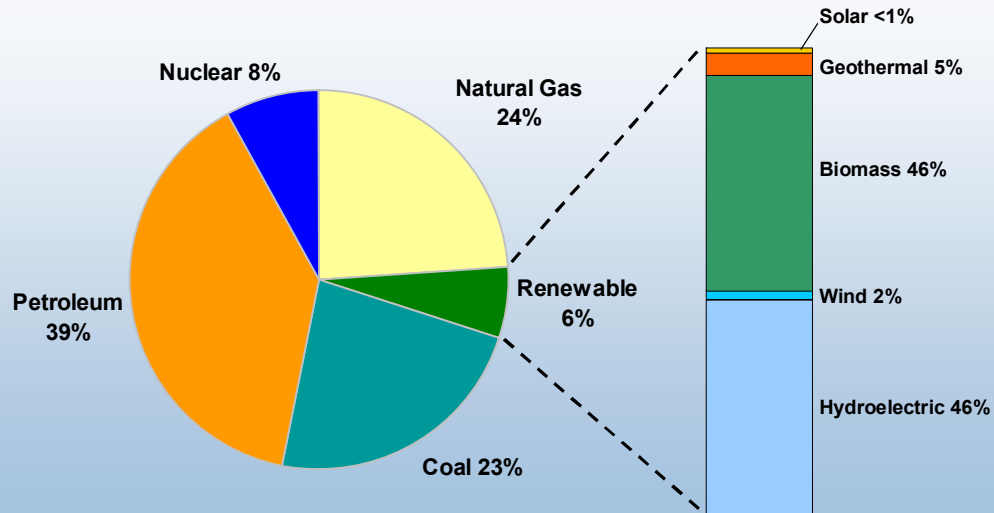
Renewable Energy: Strengthening Our Nation's Economy

**Presented at the
Southern California Energy Conference**

March 10, 2006

Dr. Michael A. Pacheco
Director, National Bioenergy Center
National Renewable Energy Laboratory

The Role of Renewables in the U.S. Energy Supply - 2003

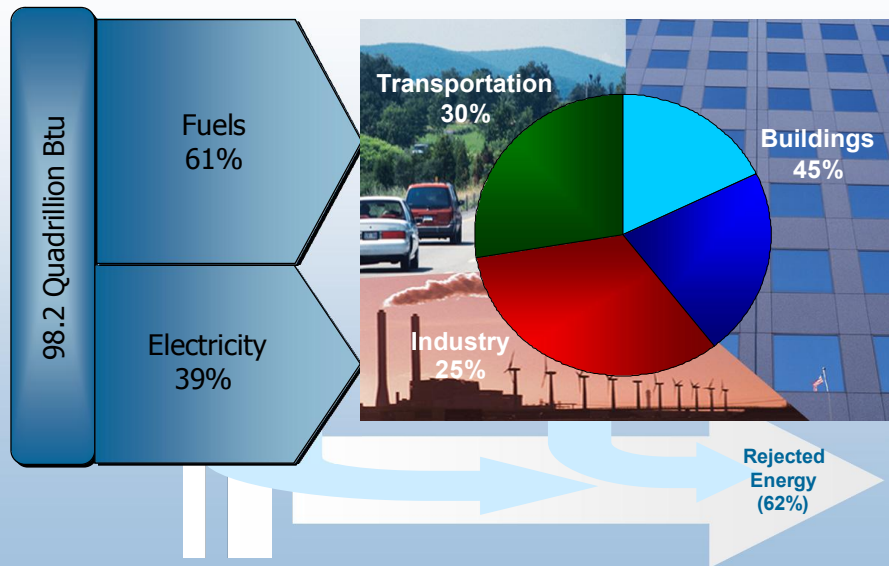


Source: AEO 2004 tables (released in December 2003) based on US energy consumption. Overall breakdown Table A1 (Total Energy Supply and Disposition), and Renewable breakdown Table A18 (Renewable Energy, Consumption by Section and Source).

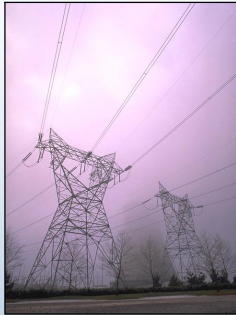
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Data from preliminary AEO 2004 tables (released in December 2003). The data is based on US energy consumption (not production which is significantly different). Overall breakdown is from Table A1 (Total Energy Supply and Disposition). Renewable breakdown is from Table A18 (Renewable Energy, Consumption by Section and Source). Corn starch (3% of total renewable energy) and MSW (6% of total renewable energy) are both considered “Biomass” for this breakdown. Mark Ruth

U.S. Energy Flows



Energy Challenges are Enormous



Energy Security
and Reliability



Economic Growth



Environmental
Impact



Natural Disasters

Technology-based Solutions:

There is no single nor simple answer

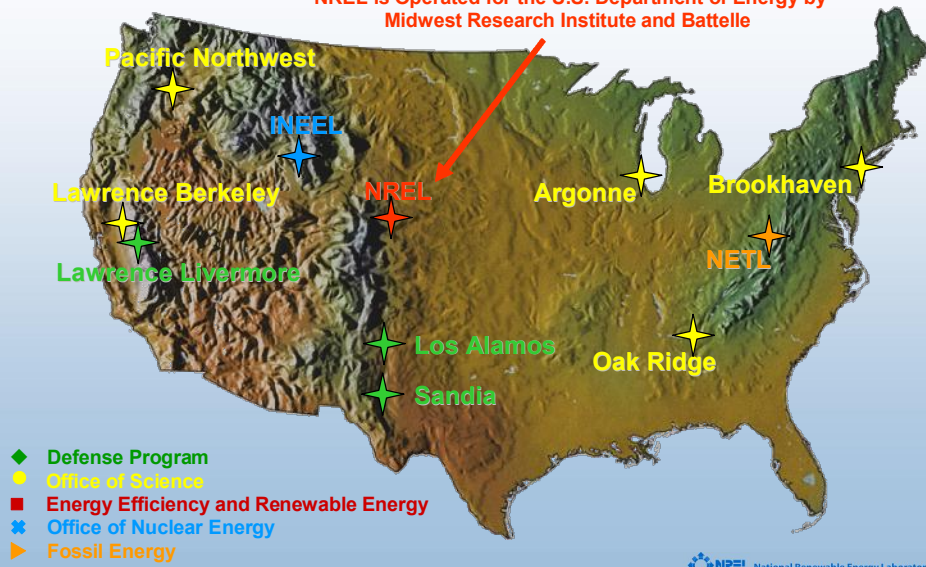
- Energy efficiency
- Renewable energy
- Non-polluting transportation fuels
- Separation and capture of CO₂ from fossil fuels
- Next generation of nuclear fission and fusion technology
- Transition to smart, resilient, distributed energy systems coupled with pollution-free energy carriers, e.g. hydrogen and electricity



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Major DOE National Laboratories

NREL is Operated for the U.S. Department of Energy by
Midwest Research Institute and Battelle



National Renewable Energy Laboratory

- Only national laboratory ***dedicated*** to renewable energy and energy efficiency R&D
- Research spans fundamental ***science*** to ***technology*** solutions
- ***Collaboration*** with industry and university partners is a hallmark
- Research programs ***linked*** to market opportunities



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EERE's Technology Development Programs

Renewable Resources

- Wind
- Solar
- Biomass
- Geothermal



Efficient Energy Use

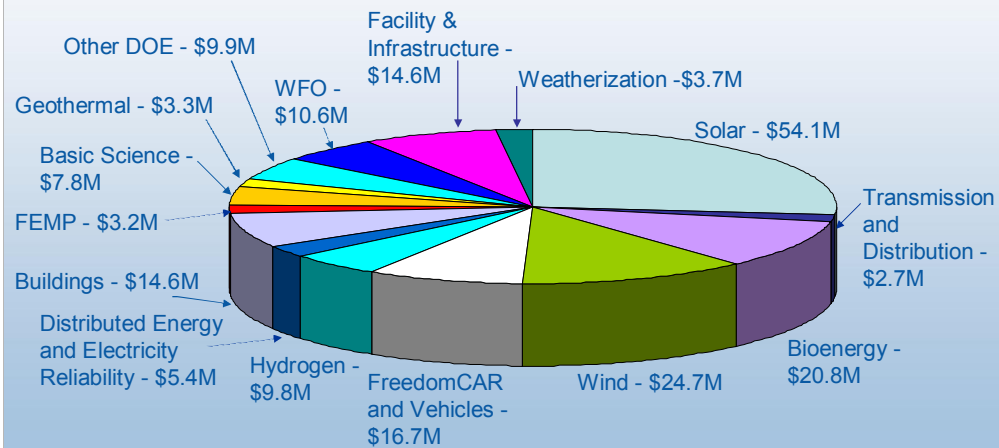
- Vehicle Technologies
- Building Technologies
- Industrial Technologies

Energy Delivery & Storage

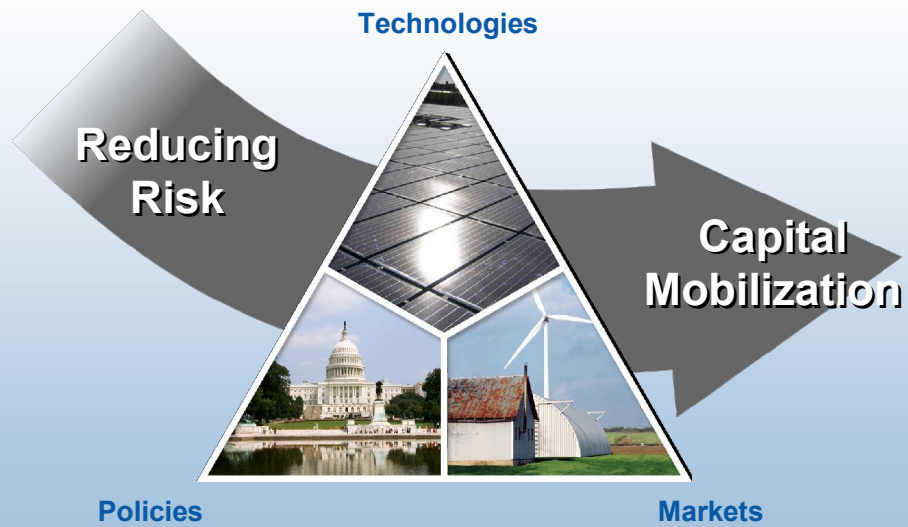
- Electricity Transmission & Distribution
- Alternative Fuels
- Hydrogen Delivery and Storage

NREL FY 2005 Program Portfolio

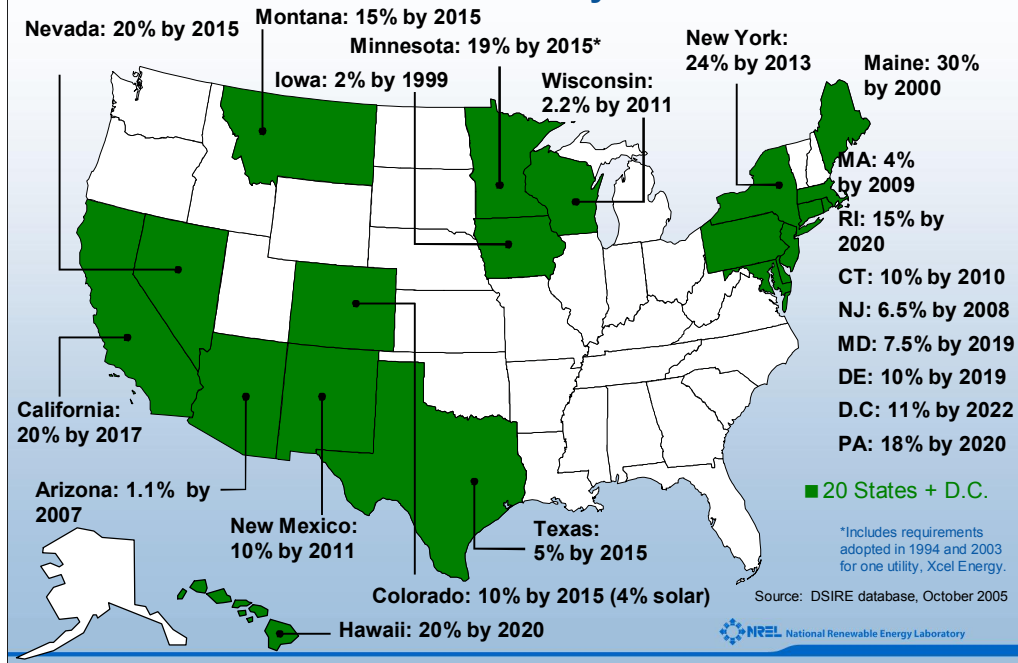
\$201.9 Million



Getting There Involves...

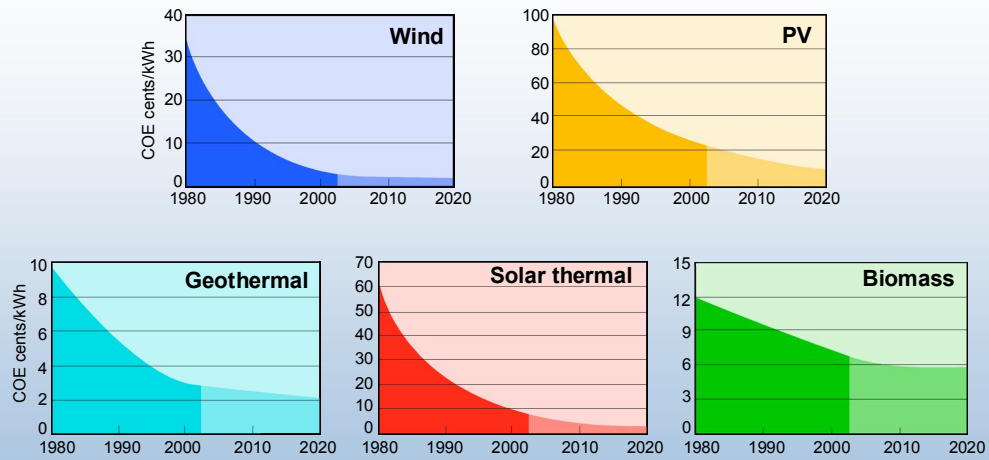


State Policy Framework Renewable Electricity Standards



Renewable Energy Costs are Decreasing

Levelized cents/kWh in constant \$2000¹



Source: NREL Energy Analysis Office (www.nrel.gov/analysis/docs/cost_curves_2002.ppt)

¹These graphs are reflections of historical cost trends NOT precise annual historical data.

Updated: October 2002

Solar/Photovoltaics

Status:

- 150 MW
- Cost 20-30¢/kWh

Potential:

- 2020 goal: 6¢/kWh



NREL Research Thrusts

- Higher efficiency devices
- New nanomaterials applications
- Advanced manufacturing techniques

Source: U.S. Department of Energy

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Solar Outlook

Technology

DOE Solar Program goals:

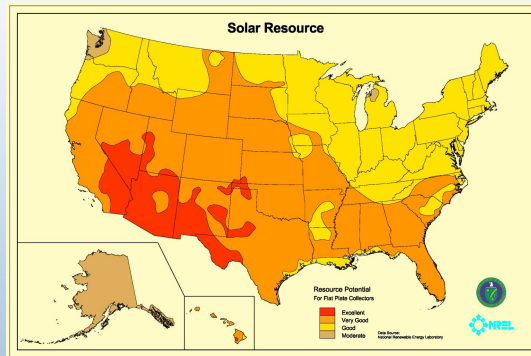
- PV: 6¢/kWh by 2020
- CSP: 5¢/kWh by 2012

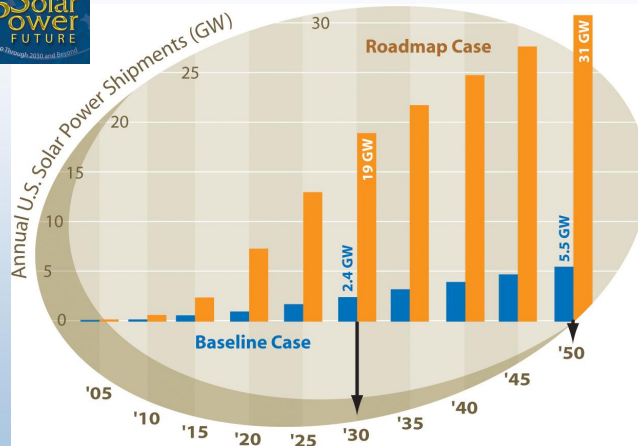
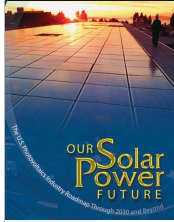
Policy

- 1000 MW initiative
- Western Governors' Association 30,000 MW by 2020 initiative
- State RPS with solar set asides

Market

- Peak power prices
- Green markets





Future Technology Directions

- Research on crystalline silicon, thin films, and balance-of-systems components
- Higher-risk, longer-term R&D for all system components that can leapfrog beyond today's technology
- Partnerships among industry, universities, and national laboratories

Comparison of annual U.S. solar power shipments under the Baseline and Roadmap cases. Shipments in 2030 and 2050 are 2.4 and 5.5 GW for the Baseline case and 19 and 31 GW for the Roadmap case.

Wind

Status:

- 9,200 MW
- Cost 4-6¢/kWh (unsubsidized)

Potential:

- 3¢/kWh (onshore) by 2012
- 5¢/kWh (offshore) by 2012



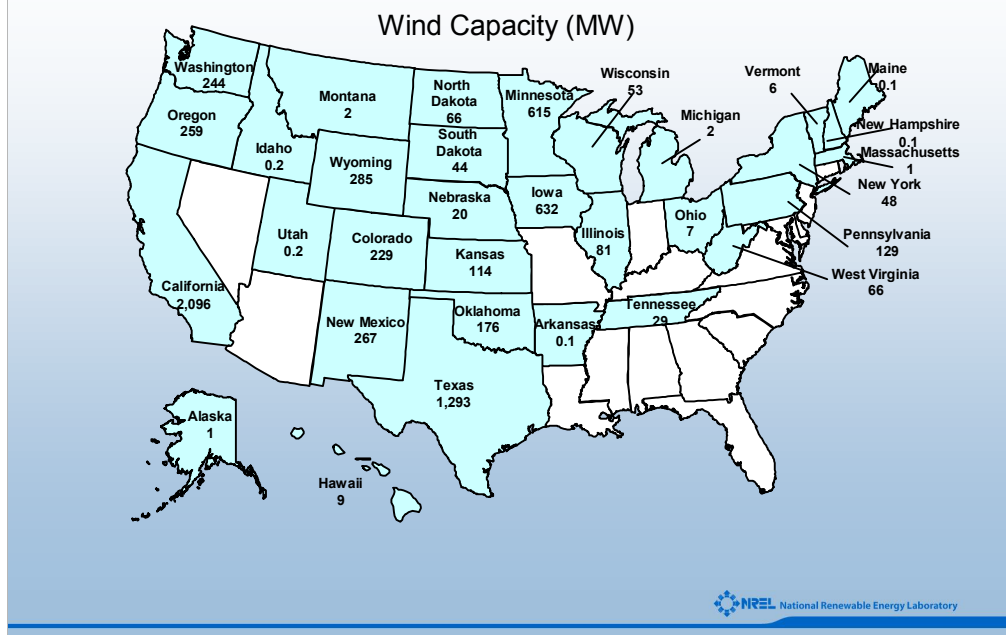
NREL Research Thrusts

- Low-wind-speed turbines
- Advanced power electronics
- Technology transfer to ocean-based systems

Source: U.S. Department of Energy, American Wind Energy Association

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Wind Energy Status



- US wind energy capacity tripled in past decade, 6770 MW today
 - Commercial wind energy systems are currently installed in 27 states.
 - Major drivers for this development include:
 - Production tax credit
 - State renewable portfolio standards
- Advances in technology that are reducing turbine costs and lower siting risks

Wind Outlook

Technology

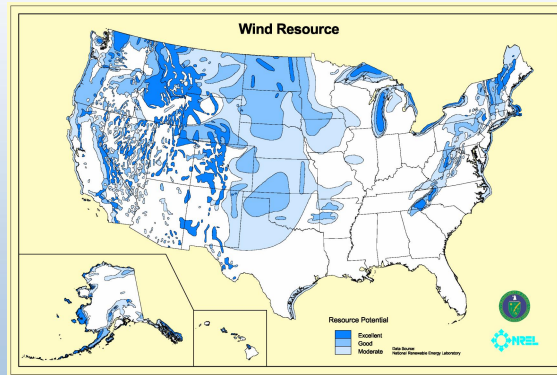
- DOE Wind Program R&D goals
 - 3¢/kWh* in class 4+ wind areas onshore
 - 5¢/kWh* for offshore systems
- New Technology will
 - Expand range of feasible sites
 - Reduce siting risk
 - Enhance system value

Policy

- State-led RPS
- Production Tax Credit

Market

- Natural gas prices
- Green purchasing

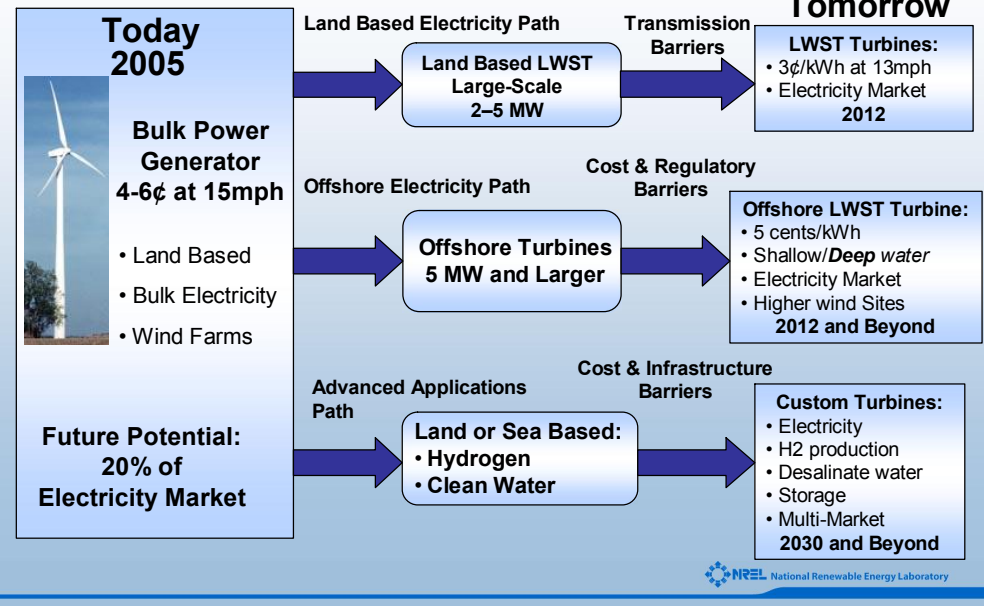


* unsubsidized

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- Larger turbines and turbines built for low wind speed regimes will will expand applications to lower wind speed class in land based applications – typical of the American U.S. and stimulate offshore installations

A Future Vision for Wind Energy Markets



Biomass/Biofuels Status

Biopower

- Grid-connected capacity
 - 9700 MW direct combustion
 - 400 MW co-firing
- Biopower electricity prices generally range from 8-12¢/kWh

Biofuels

- Biodiesel –
 - 75 million gallons (2005)
- Corn ethanol -
 - 91 commercial plants
 - 4.3 billion gallons (2005)
 - ~\$1.20/gal
- Cellulosic ethanol (not commercial)
 - Est. \$2 - \$3 /gal



Source: U.S. Department of Energy

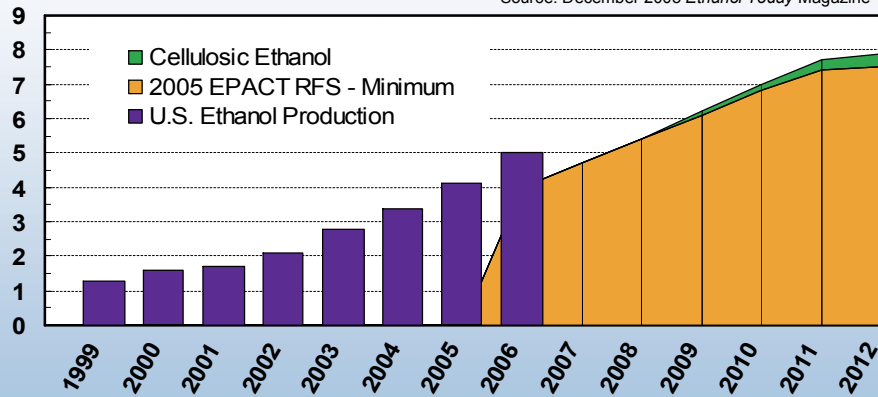
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U.S. Ethanol Production

Actual and Projected U.S. Ethanol Production 1999-2012

Billion Gallons of Production

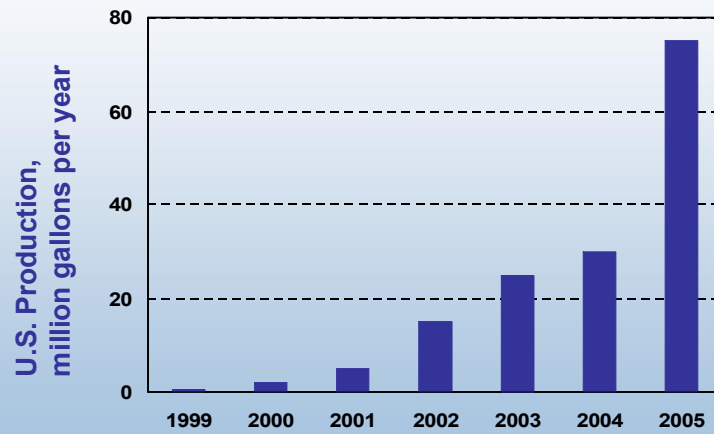
Source: December 2005 *Ethanol Today* Magazine



- Renewable Fuels Standard mandates 7.5 billion gallons by 2012
- Total US gasoline market ~140 billion annual gallons

U.S. Biodiesel Production

Source: http://www.biodiesel.org/pdf_files/fuelfactsheets/Production_Graph_Slide.pdf (2-5-2006)



Total US distillate fuels market is approximately 60 billion gallons/year

Biomass Outlook

Technology

DOE Biomass Program goals:

- 5.5¢/kWh by 2010
- \$1.07/gal bioethanol by 2012

Policy

Biofuel tax incentives

Energy Policy Act of 2005
requires 7.5 billion gallons
per year by 2012

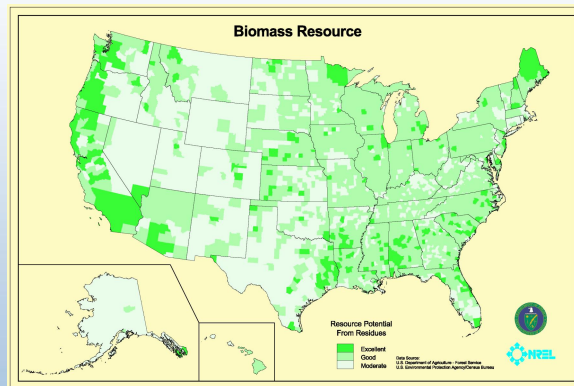
President's Biofuels Initiative

Market

Growth in E85 stations

GM “Buy Yellow” campaign

2030 goal: biofuels = 30% of transportation fuels



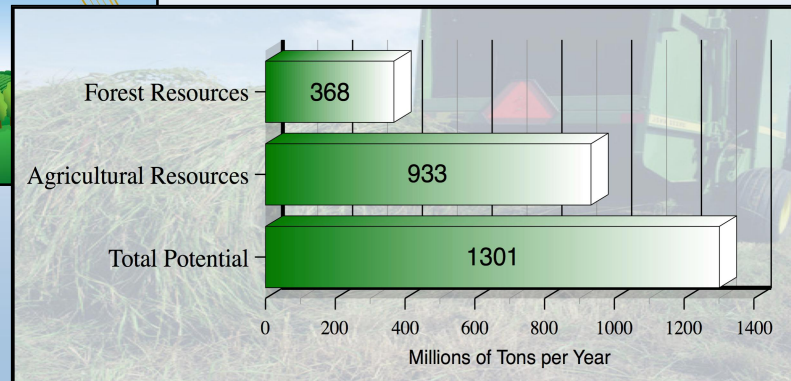
U.S. Biomass Resource Assessment

Biomass as Feedstock for a
Bioenergy and Bioproducts Industry:
The Technical Feasibility of a
Billion-Ton Annual Supply

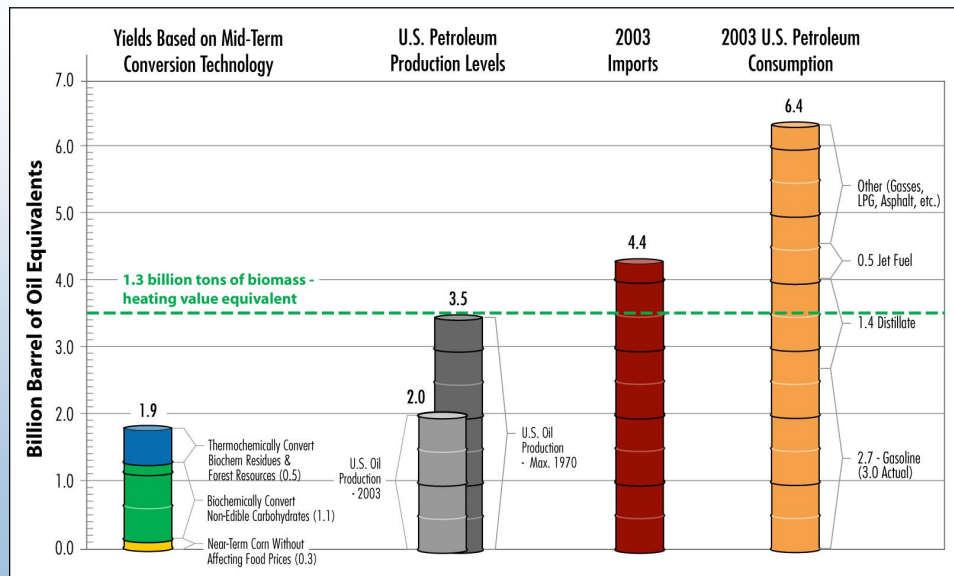
April 2005



- Updated resource assessment - April 2005
- Jointly developed by U.S. DOE and USDA
- Referred to as the “Billion Ton Study”



Significance of the “Billion Ton” Scenario



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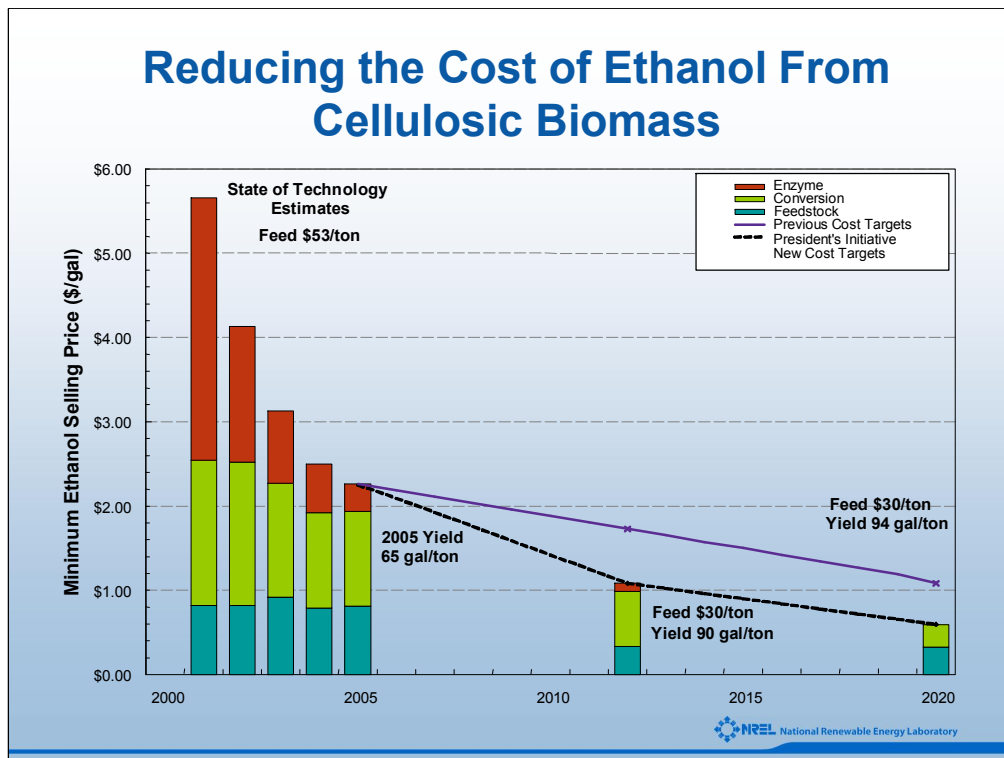
ORNL and USDA very recently issued a report describing a scenario for producing 1.3 billion tons of biomass every year in the U.S. This slide puts the recent ORNL-USDA *Billion Ton Vision Study* in context of petroleum displacement. For the green dashed line... energy contents of biomass were based on Higher (Gross) Heating Values, dry weight.

For near-term grains based on a very aggressive 20 billion gal ethanol per year as per estimate of NCGA. 2005 capacity is 4.4 billion gal. For mid-term conversion technologies of lignocellulosic biomass are assumed. 90 gal EtOH per ton of biomass (as per NREL's 2002 Design Report's Market Target). 72 gal EtOH per ton of biomass via thermochem (as per Rich Bain's Feb. 9, 2005 NREL tech memo). Includes all forest residues.

Lignocellulosic biomass yields are based on “today's technology”, assuming alcohol production. Further improvements in Conversion Efficiency and/or alternative end products can dramatically change the impact biomass can have on displacing petroleum.

Currently, we use over 6 billion barrels of oil each year in the U.S. (Note: accounting differences depending upon whether including imported refined products, crude oil to Strategic Reserve, etc.). The United States (including Alaska) currently produces about 2 billion barrels of oil per year, only 67% of the U.S. biomass potential. U.S. oil production peaked in 1970-71 at approx 3.5 billion barrels per year. The U.S. has NEVER produced more than 3.5 billion barrels/year of oil.

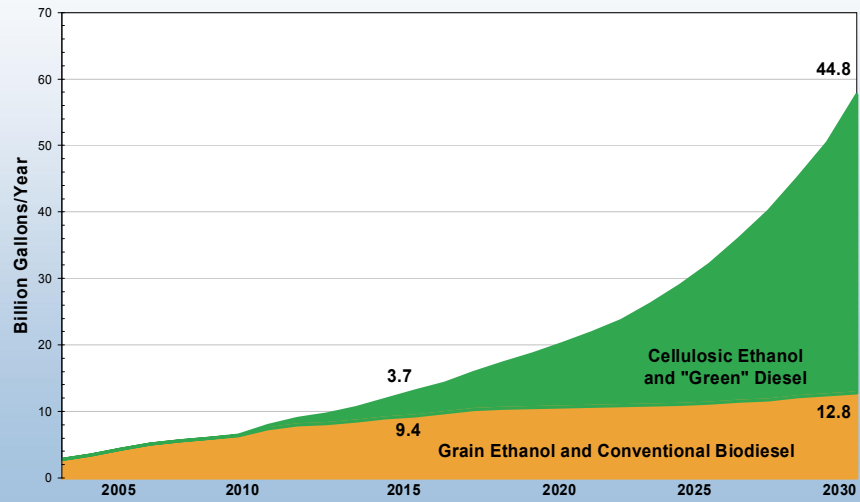
Energy content of biomass determined from the split of biomass type in Billion Ton Vision report. Note: No MSW was included in the billion ton vision. U.S. produces about 200 million ton/yr of MSW.



Over the past 5 years, tremendous progress has been made at reducing the cost of ethanol from cellulosic biomass, corn stover in particular, via the enzymatic hydrolysis pathway. In the late 1990's, the high cost of cellulase enzymes made it impractical to consider the use of these enzymes in hydrolyzing cellulose, despite the higher sugar yields that enzymes can provide over acid hydrolysis. In fact, acid hydrolysis was the norm at that time despite its inherent yield limitations.

All that has changed due to a 4 year partnership between DOE/NREL and 2 of the world's largest enzyme manufacturers – Genencor and Novozymes. As shown in the chart, the cost of these enzymes has been reduced from over \$3/gallon of ethanol, to now less than 25 cents per gallon. This is shown by the red segment in the stacked bar chart. Today, as a result of this DOE/NREL-industry 4-year partnership. All major process development for cellulosic ethanol is based on enzymatic hydrolysis of the cellulose, and the use of enzymes even for selective hydrolysis of the

Required Growth of Cellulosic Ethanol to Supply 30% of U.S. Gasoline Demand by 2030



Expected Breakthrough in Biofuels

- **Ability to produce ethanol cheaply from plentiful lignocellulose resources**
 - Agriculture & Forestry
- **Use of biology together with thermo-chemistry**
- **Target: \$1.07/gal by 2012**



Underpinning advances:

- Plant cell wall deconstruction
- Robust ethanologens
- Better options for thermochemical fuels
- Process intensification

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The largest breakthroughs expected in biofuels are:

- 1) Our ability to cost-effectively produce ethanol from the complex carbohydrates (hemicellulose and cellulose) that comprise lignocellulosic biomass. ... These carbohydrates represent the largest source of carbon based raw materials on the planet, and they are sustainably reproduced year after year. In fact, the flux of carbon cycling through land-based biomass on this planet is roughly ten times the flux of carbon due to our use of fossil fuels: 60 billion tons per year, versus 5.5 billion tons per year. Without biofuels from lignocellulose, biomass cannot significant impact petroleum usage in the U.S.
- 2) The combined use thermo chemistry together with biology will allow us to produce additional transportation fuels from the lignin fraction of biomass, and get acceptable yield and energy balance. In fact some biomass is so rich in things other than carbohydrates, that thermo chemistry may be the predominant source of liquid fuels. Lignocellulosic biomass typically stores 30-40% of it's heating value (energy content) as lignin, and this lignin is very difficult to convert biochemically.
- 3) The net affect of 1 & 2 will be to improve the overall yield and efficiency and reduce the cost of producing transportation fuels from biomass. DOE's target is \$1.07 per gallon by 2020.

The underlying advances in technology that will enable these breakthroughs are:

- a dramatic improvement in our ability to cheaply deconstruct plant cell wall tissue into the simple C5 & C6 sugars,
- robust fermentation organisms, or ethanologens, that can convert the complex mixture of sugars from hemicellulose and cellulose into ethanol,



President's Hydrogen Initiative

NREL Focus

- Renewable H₂ Production
- Carbon-based Hydrogen Storage
- Infrastructure/Codes and Standards
- Fuel Cell Integration (mobile and stationary)
- Systems Integration & Analysis (production through end use)

Advances in Transportation (FreedomCAR)

- Transition – hybrids, then fuel cells
- More efficient vehicles
- Cleaner, higher BTU fuels
- Redesigning passenger environment for maximum efficiency and comfort
- Smart urban growth



The background image shows the interior of a large, modern building. It features a high ceiling with a complex network of white structural beams and a central circular light fixture. Large windows on the right side allow natural light to enter. The floor is a light-colored, polished surface. A small, square, blue and white patterned object is visible on the floor in the foreground.

Advances in Buildings

- Zero-energy buildings
- Solid state lighting, prismatic lenses
- Roofing materials – reflection & insulation
- Combined heat and power systems, more efficient duct systems
- Lower cost, low emissivity windows

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Technologies Can Drive Economic Development in California



**NREL is a partner in the developing cost-effective
renewable resources to support growth of
renewable energy industries**

The U.S. Department of Energy's
National Renewable Energy Laboratory

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